

# Diogenes

Hugo Loetscher

*So Few Letters, So Much World*

Published by Diogenes as *So wenig Buchstaben und so viel Welt*  
Original title: *So wenig Buchstaben und so viel Welt*



Hugo Loetscher's best travel essays and reports, many in book format for the first time.

Hugo Loetscher was a writer who »wanted to experience the world that was conveyed to him.« From Switzerland, he embarked in all directions of the compass, often on commission for newspapers and magazines, writing knowledgeable, witty, sparkling essays and reports. Loetscher's eye for the simultaneities and hybrid forms of a globalised world is profoundly modern; his style always original and surprising. This volume is a wonderful springboard for discovering – or rediscovering – one of Switzerland's greatest authors and journalists. Including photographs by René Burri, Tobias Hitsch, Willy Spiller and Daniel Schwartz as well as unpublished photos by Hugo Loetscher himself.

## Book factsheet

Contemporary Literature, Travel Writing  
480 pages  
14 x 20.5 x 2.7 cm  
June 2024

### Contact:

Susanne Bauknecht, Rights Director,  
susanne.bauknecht@diogenes.ch and Suzanne  
Hégelé, Film Rights Manager,  
suzanne.hegele@diogenes.ch

### Movie adaptation

#### Mittwoch

Director: Markus Silberschmidt

### Awards

- 2006 Erster Preis des Lyrikwettbewerbs des Festival Rilke in Sierre für *Es war einmal die Welt*
- 2004 Ehrenbürger der Gemeinde Escholzmatt (Kanton Luzern)
- 2000 Werkbeitrag des Kantons Zürich im Bereich Literatur
- 1999 Ehrengabe des Kantons Zürich im Bereich Literatur
- 1999 Ehrengabe der Stadt Zürich im Bereich Literatur
- 1996 Literaturpreis der Brasserie Lipp für *Die Fliege und die Suppe*: Auszeichnung für Hugo Loetscher sowie für die Übersetzung ins Französische von Jean-Claude Capèle
- 1994 Kreuz des Südens (Orden für Verdienste um die brasilianische Kultur)
- 1992 Großer Schiller-Preis der Schweizerischen Schillerstiftung
- 1989 Ehrengabe der Stadt Zürich für *Die Fliege und die Suppe*
- 1986 Preis der Luzerner Förderungskommission
- 1985 Literaturpreis der Zürcher Kantonalbank
- 1985 Ehrengabe der Schweizerischen Schiller-Stiftung
- 1983 Mozart-Medaille der Johann Wolfgang Goethe-Stiftung, Basel
- 1972 Literaturpreis der Stadt Zürich
- 1966 C.F. Meyer Preis
- 1964 Charles Veillon Preis für *Abwässer. Ein Gutachten*
- 1964 »Charles Veillon Preis« für *Abwässer. Ein Gutachten*

### Praise

*So Few Letters, So Much World*

»What a joy of epiphanies to entrust oneself to such a Cicerone!« – Martin Marko / *Welt am Sonntag*, Berlin

Hugo Loetscher

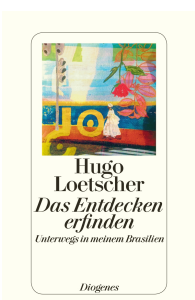
»Hugo Loetscher is a wonderful narrator whose formulation of weighty thoughts is as light as a feather.« – *Sonntags Zeitung*, Zurich



**Praise (cont'd)**

»Punchlines, quirky humour, startling observations, witty comments – there’s never a moment of boredom with Hugo Loetscher.« – Jürg Altwegg / Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung

Hugo Loetscher (1929 – 2009) was one of Switzerland's most famous writers with novels such as *Sewage* and *The Immune Man*. In his role as journalist, he travelled to Latin America, Southeast Asia and the USA regularly. He always held a particular interest in photography. Hugo Loetscher, who lived in Zurich, was a visiting lecturer at universities in Switzerland, the USA, Germany and Portugal; and a member of the Darmstadt Academy for Language and Poetry. In 1992, he was awarded the ›Schiller Prize‹ by Switzerland’s Schiller Foundation.



*Inventing Discovery*  
384 pages  
2016



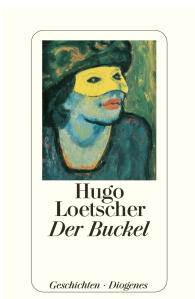
*Wonder World*  
416 pages  
2009



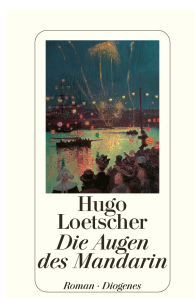
*Once There Was the World*  
128 pages  
2004



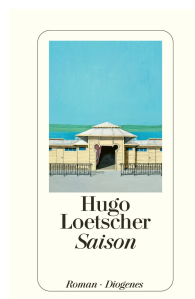
*Read, Don't Climb!*  
448 pages  
2003



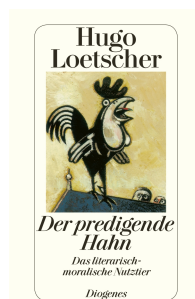
*The Hunchback*  
224 pages  
2002



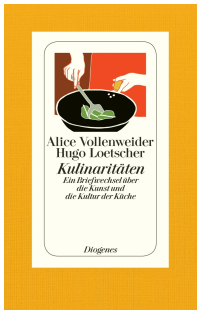
*The Eyes of the Mandarin*  
384 pages  
1999



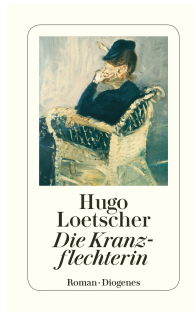
*Season*  
416 pages  
1995



*The Preaching Rooster*  
376 pages  
1992



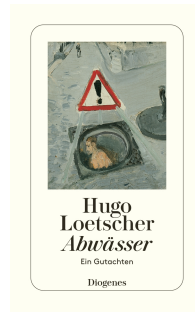
**Culinarities**  
144 pages  
1991



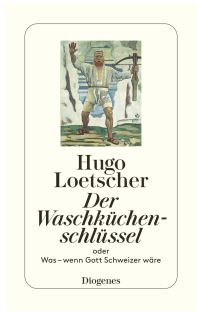
**The Wreath Maker**  
192 pages  
1989



**The Fly and the Soup**  
224 pages  
1989



**Sewage**  
160 pages  
1989  
🏆 **Award winner**



**The Laundry Room Key**  
192 pages  
1988  
🎬 **Movie Adaptation**



**Telling about Story-Telling**  
176 pages  
1988



**Papers of the Immune Man**  
512 pages  
1986



**The Immune Man**  
448 pages  
1985



**Noah**  
144 pages  
1984



**Was My Time My Time**  
192 pages  
1983



**Autumn in the Big Orange**  
168 pages  
1982